

And Dennis from Downingtown had to sell his car because he could no longer afford the high financial burden on top of other expenses.

Our communities deserve support in facing these challenges, and it is vital that we do everything that we can to confront them. I helped establish an Inflation Working Group to find policy solutions to lower costs for Americans, reinforce supply chains, and fight inflationary pressures. Simply put, we must use every tool in our toolbox to support our families.

We live in an increasingly globalized world, which is why I, along with a bipartisan group of my colleagues, traveled to Australia and India to speak with our international partners about cooperation on trade, investments, and shoring up our supply chains.

I promise to continue to make this issue a priority, working with all of my colleagues to find substantive solutions for my constituents and for all Americans.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested.

S. 895. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption from gross income for mandatory restitution or civil damages as recompense for trafficking in persons.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 36. Concurrent Resolution honoring the life and legacy of Ulysses S. Grant in commemoration of his 200th Birthday.

RECOGNIZING JEFFERSON COUNTY CIDERWORKS

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a small business in Iowa's Second District.

Jefferson County Ciderworks of Fairfield recently won four awards at the annual New York International Cider Competition. This competition featured over 300 different ciders from around the world and was judged by industry professionals.

Jefferson County Ciderworks finished the competition with four medals, including being named the Iowa Cider Producer of the Year. Four additional ciders were awarded medals in the modern, fruit, and spiced cider categories.

I applaud Jefferson County Ciderworks for proudly representing Iowa on the international stage and wish them the best in the Great Lakes International Cider and Perry competition later this year.

HONORING THE WEATHER CHANNEL'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mrs. MCBATH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, 40 years ago, live from Atlanta, Georgia, households across America were introduced to The Weather Channel. For the first time, Americans could get safe, reliable, trustworthy information about the weather 24 hours a day.

Since its first broadcast, The Weather Channel has done far more than just provide up-to-date information about weather forecasts. With the help of friendly, familiar faces, The Weather Channel's reporting has inspired countless young people to wonder and care about the natural world around them, motivating them to study weather and our climate. And through their constant innovation, The Weather Channel's award-winning breakthroughs in weather reporting have undoubtedly saved countless American lives.

I am proud to lead a House Resolution with my colleague from Georgia, Congressman LOUDERMILK, to commemorate the anniversary; and I wish The Weather Channel continued success as they document and broadcast vital weather and safety information to millions of households across the country.

WASHINGTON DEMOCRATS NEED TO GET SERIOUS

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, in Fiscal Year 2021, Customs and Border Patrol seized 11,000 pounds of fentanyl at our southern border. During the same period, opioid deaths jumped to 75,000, up from 56,000 deaths the prior year.

This is no coincidence. Even in a hearing on combating the opioid crisis this week, not a single one of my Democratic colleagues called for President Biden to end his open border policies that have allowed the free flow of fentanyl or other illicit drugs into the United States.

During the hearing, the former Acting DEA Administrator testified that securing the border is a commonsense approach to stopping drug traffickers and giving power back to our law enforcement.

On one hand, Washington Democrats say they want to solve the opioid crisis. On the other hand, they are supporting policies and politicians that have left our border open.

Washington Democrats need to get serious. If we want to solve this opioid crisis, we must secure the border and restore law and order.

MARKING BIRTHDAY OF THE 11TH PANCHEN LAMA

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, this week, we mark the 33rd birthday of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama. Born in central Tibet, at the age of six he was recognized by His Holiness the Dalai Lama as the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, one of the most important figures in the Gelug School of Tibetan Buddhism, and a senior figure across all of Tibet.

In May of 1995, just 3 days after he was recognized, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima and his family were taken away by the Chinese Government. Disappeared. Kidnapped.

For 27 years, Tibetan Buddhists have asked of his well-being. For 27 years, Chinese authorities have refused to provide proof of life. The most they have said is that he is well and wants to be left alone.

Tibetans deserve an answer. The world deserves to know.

Gedhun Choekyi Nyima remains one of the world's longest-held prisoners of conscience.

His enforced disappearance is an egregious example of the Chinese Government's violation of the religious freedom of Tibetan Buddhists, who have the right to choose their own religious leaders, including the Dalai Lama, without government interference.

In honor of his birthday, I again call on the Chinese Government to free the true Panchen Lama immediately and to uphold its international obligation to respect the religious freedom of all persons.

WELCOMING GEORGIAN PRESIDENT ZOURABICHVILI

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Washington welcomed President Salome Zourabichvili, of the Republic of Georgia, who had come to attend the funeral of former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

During an interview with The Washington Post, President Zourabichvili explained that, along with Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova were the two countries closest to Russia wanting to join NATO and the European Union, but not protected by either. "Georgia should not be forgotten" and if so, they might be a temptation for the Russian leadership.

President Zourabichvili reviewed that Georgia also had a history of war with Russia, most recently in 2008, as well as 1991, shortly after declaring independence.

It is reassuring, the President said, the Georgian population is 100 percent united in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. Americans are also united for the independence of Georgia, Moldova, led by President Maia Sandu, and Ukraine.